

REICHSTAG MEETS TO TAKE UP QUESTION OF FOOD SUPPLY AND OF NATION'S FINANCES

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

BERLIN, Nov. 29. (Via London, Nov. 29.)—The Reichstag will assemble tomorrow for its sixth war session—a session which will take place under the influence of two absorbing topics of the present moment, namely, the regulation of the food supply and the aims and the conduct of the war. It will also, it is understood, be marked by the introduction of a new vote of credit for the war, presumably for the accumulated amount of \$2,500,000,000, although no definite announcement in this respect has been made.

The actual items already announced for the working program of the session include a bill for the modification of punishments for minor offenses under martial law, discussion of the governmental report against the reduction of the age limit for old age pensions from 70 to 65 years, and minor legislative projects.

It is generally anticipated, on the other hand, that the members will take this occasion to launch a general criticism of the measures for the regulation of the food supply, on which the government has promised to submit a memorandum to the Reichstag, and that certain elements, notably the radical wing of the socialists, will insist on bringing into the discussion the ultimate aims of the war and the terms on which Germany could profitably make peace.

Whether Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg will be drawn by this discussion into a statement more or less definite on the subject is uncertain. The Associated Press is informed from circles in the closest touch with the chancellor that the decision whether the chancellor will speak on this subject has not yet been taken.

On the other hand a newspaper statement coming from Major Ernst Bassermann, one of the parliamentary leaders who has been in preliminary conference with the chancellor, asserts that the chancellor will deliver an important speech on the foreign and internal policies, expressing himself particularly on the question of food supply.

The general meetings of the Reichstag will be resumed about December 12, at which public discussions of the food supply and regulations, censorship, hardships in the administration of Germany under the exceptional regulations of the military law during the war and the general military and political situation will take place.

The socialists are reported as not yet having agreed upon a program for the session.

Few Left in Monastir
LONDON, Nov. 29.—Telegraphing from Salonika Sunday, the Times correspondent says:

"It is stated that the director of telegraphs, twenty gendarmes and three army officers, who are still remaining in Monastir today, are ready to leave at the first moment. All the civil authorities already have left in anticipation of the arrival of the Bulgarians, who are said to have been joined by the Austro-Germans descending from Mitrovitza. Apparently they have succeeded in shaking off the French force which lately has been attacking them east of Priboj.

"From that direction as well as probably from Krushevo, they are said to be advancing on Monastir, driving back the handful of Serbians, who

without hope of keeping them permanently in check, have gallantly sought to delay their progress."

Russ Hit German Line

PETROGRAD, Nov. 29. (Via London, Nov. 29.)—Russian troops operating southwest of Pinsk made an incursion across the German line Saturday night under cover of darkness, according to an official communication issued today, and delivered a successful surprise attack on the staff quarters of the Eighty-Second German division, quartered in a mansion near Nessel. An assault was made on the guard of the quarters and by means of the bayonet and hand grenades the guard was annihilated. Two generals, one of whom was the chief of division, a doctor and three officers were taken prisoner. Continuing the statement says:

"Yielding under the weight of German reinforcements, which came to the rescue, our men retired. Our losses were nine men wounded and two killed, including three officers wounded and one killed.

"Northwest of Dvinsk in the region of Iloukist and the village of Kazimirichki the Germans Saturday night opened a violent artillery fire against our trenches and at dawn began an attack, but they were met by the concentrated fire of our artillery and fell back on their trenches, where they came under the fire of their own batteries.

"Profiting by this situation, our troops launched a counter attack, as a result of which the enemy was dislodged from Kazimirichki farm and from the wood west of the farm. A portion of our troops at the same time penetrated Iloukist and occupied the eastern suburb. Developing this success, we occupied two cemeteries in the village and part of the German trenches further south. The engagement continues with an increasing violence in the artillery fire.

"On the remainder of the front from Dvinsk to the Pripiet there is nothing to report."

ATTENDANCE PASSES THE 13,000,000 MARK

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 29.—Attendance at the Panama-Pacific Exposition passed the 13,000,000 mark—the goal set early in the exposition by the officials—at 4 p. m. today.

"In our wildest moments, we never dreamed of 13,000,000," E. C. Conroy, chief of the department of admission said tonight, "but now it looks as though we shall not fall far below that figure."

COLONEL BYRNE DIES

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LONDON, Nov. 29.—Colonel Henry Byrne, lord mayor of the Manor of Kesh, died here Sunday. Colonel Byrne entered the United States army during the Civil War as a captain and served under Generals Miles and Grant.

COURT REACHES LJUMA

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LONDON, Nov. 29.—A dispatch to the Times from Athens, says the Serbian court is reported to have arrived at Ljuma, Albania.

AUSTRIANS BREAK ITALIANS' TRENCHES OUTSIDE OF GORIZIA

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

ROME, Nov. 29.—(Via Paris, Nov. 29.)—The Austrian forces defending Gorizia have been strongly reinforced and the statement issued today at the headquarters of the Italian general staff admits they succeeded in some places in breaking into Italian advance trenches, but it is declared they were hurled back after sanguinary hand to hand fighting.

The text of the communication follows:

"In the Popova valley (Siena) one of our detachments attacked and destroyed an enemy field fort west of the Marogona bridge southeast of Schiedlach.

"In the Monte Negro zone our troops yesterday renewed their attacks on the steep slopes of Mizi and Vodil. After a stern struggle with varying fortunes, strong enemy entrenchments remained in our possession. The accurate fire of our artillery destroyed three enemy machine guns.

"On the heights northwest of Gorizia the enemy, having been strongly reinforced, made violent counter attacks throughout the day and succeeded in some places in breaking into our new trenches but after furious hand to hand fighting was thrown back.

"On the Carso plateau our troops developed an energetic offensive against the northern slopes of Monte San Michele and towards San Martino, we stormed several more trenches.

Gorizia in Flames

LONDON, Nov. 29.—Telegraphing from Zurich, the Exchange Telegraph company's correspondent says:

"A semi-official Austrian dispatch received here says the suburbs of Gorizia are in flames and that the evacuation of the town by the remaining civilians is proceeding methodically."

in Sweden under the Swedish government control.

The Aktiebolaget Transito will control goods from their landing in Norway on their way to Goffe, Sundsvall or Sweden and thence by ship to Russia.

As there will be no opportunity for any deviation when goods are addressed to the Aktiebolaget transito, arrangements have been made that steamers on their way to Russia will be safeguarded against seizure or delay by the British authorities, which will be of great advantage to American exporters, who will thus be able to continue uninterrupted traffic in cotton, metals and other goods.



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MELLEN HELD STOCK OF ONE MAN COMPANY FOR TWO YEARS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—The New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad never controlled the John L. Billard company, Charles S. Mellen testified today at the trial of the eleven former directors of the railroad, but for two years Mr. Mellen said he held the stock of the one man company himself.

This testimony defeated the effects of the government to show that Billard assigned the stock of this company to the New Haven, which government counsel wished to prove in order to substantiate their contention that the Billard company was a creature of the New Haven, organized for the purpose of loading Boston and Maine railroad stock to evade the law and for other illegitimate purposes.

The federal attorneys professed to be satisfied, however, with the witness' testimony. Mellen said that contrary to minutes of the board of directors which purported to show that the Billard company's \$2,000,000 stock was assigned to the New England Navigation company, a New Haven subsidiary, it was in fact indorsed by Billard in blank and turned over to him.

Mellen said that he kept the stock, together with notes of Billard and several millions of securities in a sealed envelope from 1909 and 1911 and then turned them back to Billard.

During this time, Mellen testified, the Billard company invested in \$750,000 worth of the bonds of the Boston Herald, bought a note for \$200,000 from its then editor, W. E. Haskell, and

made loans to other newspapermen.

Although no transaction by which Billard bought the New Haven's \$100,000 Boston and Maine shares from the New Haven and sold it back a year later—"an absolute sale," the witness called it—Billard's nominal profit was \$275,000, all Billard actually got was \$150,000, Mr. Mellen testified. Billard was asked to take the reduction, the witness explained, on the theory that he was "a friend of the New Haven."

It also was brought out that \$375,000 of Billard company funds were used to pay personal obligations of Charles S. Mellen, which he said he had incurred on behalf of the New Haven and "for which I did not have the proper vouchers."

TREASURER'S STATEMENT—The annual report of State Treasurer M. S. Simeon, covering a period of one year, from July 1, 1914 to June 30, 1915, was issued for public distribution yesterday. The booklet consists of thirty-two pages, and shows the various receipts and disbursements for every fund handled through that office during the past year. Copies of the book will be mailed all over the United States, many of them finding their way into the colleges and other state institutions of the country.

WAR'S ONLY END

War should be managed as to remember that the only end of it is peace.—Cicero.

WATER CONFERENCE TAKES DEFINITE SHAPE

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 29.—Definite shape was given to the work of the state water problems conference today by a decision of the conference to immediately appoint several committees to outline remedial legislation for the irrigation, reclamation and flood control perplexities of California. Lieutenant Governor John M. Eshelman, president of the conference, who will arrive to preside over tomorrow's session, will probably name the committees tomorrow.

The work of the several committees, it was said, would be divided probably under the heads of irrigation, riparian rights, administration, finance and state aid, flood control, reclamation and conservation.

Discussions of the conference in the three meetings already held have revealed, it was said today, a divided opinion on the question of administration of California's water affairs. A plan to jettison the several commissions, now charged with the administration of various aspects of water problems and to correlate the work under the jurisdiction of a single state commission with wide powers has met with well defined objection.

GLENDALE CITY DADS ADVISED OF ECONOMY

The screams of the reformer for lower administrative expenses sometimes sound loud in the ears of the populace, but the following, from the Glendale News, is said to sound the

BRITISH VICTORY OVER TURKS SEALS THE FATE OF BAGDAD

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The British victory over the Turks at Ctesiphon, near Baghdad, as reported last week has not, as many persons believed, sealed the fate of Baghdad. An official report issued tonight says that having successfully completed the removal of his wounded and prisoners, General Townshend, the British commander, in the face of the arrival of Turkish reinforcements again has withdrawn his forces to a position lower down the

lowest limit in the well of municipal finance.

"Discussing ways and means of reducing the taxes, the other night one of the city dads suggested that the street sprinkler be discontinued, the city teams all sold to purchasing agents for Europe, the street superintendent to the country and the parks be allowed to revert to a wilderness; that the town marshal be canned; that the town clerk dispose of all assistants, reading meters and performing other outside duties from 5 a. m. to 7 p. m., with 20 minutes for luncheon, keeping his office open for the purpose of receiving cash and other complaints from 7:30 to 12:45 p. m.; that the salary of the mayor be reduced to \$3,500 a year and that each member of the council be required to contribute 50 cents to the general fund at each regular meeting and a dollar at special, this to be used in the liquidation of the town attorney's salary."

While this will prove a disappointment to the United Kingdom, those who know the country through which the British have forced their way, are not surprised that every precaution is being taken to prevent a reverse, or even a check in the march upon Mesopotamia.

The country is very inhospitable and especially at this time of the year, it is necessary that the army should keep near the river, where there is a plentiful supply of water and where it can be replenished and supplied with munitions and guns by the heterogeneous fleet which accompanies it.

The defeat inflicted on the Turks previously appears, from all accounts to have been a serious one. Of the four Turkish divisions engaged in the fighting one was virtually wiped out. General Townshend, according to the first account of the battle, commanded only one British division but he probably will be better supplied with guns than his opponents as long as he keeps near the river, and has the assistance of armed steamers and tugs which have been converted into floating forts. It is expected that he is receiving reinforcements which will enable him shortly to resume his advance on Baghdad.

As the season advances his progress is expected to become less difficult. Heretofore, the British force has had to contend with the intense heat and lack of water, but the rivers are now rising and there should soon be plenty of water for the men and horses and for the purposes of navigation.